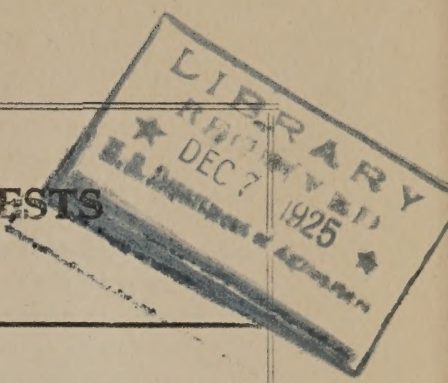


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COTTON - PRODUCTION CONTESTS

Including Boys' and Girls' Clubs

**Excerpts from 1924 Annual Reports of
State and County Extension Agents**

**Prepared by J. A. Evans, Assistant Chief,
and M. C. Wilson, in Charge,
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Office of Cooperative Extension Work,
U. S. Department of Agriculture**

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Adult Campaigns and Contests

Arkansas

With "Raise a bale an acre" for our slogan, we mustered our forces and called our friends of the Clark County Bankers' Association to our aid and this was the plan they agreed to: First, second and third prizes of \$300, \$200, and \$100, respectively, were offered to the farmer who, by the use of any means of cultivation, could raise the most seed cotton on a 5-acre plot of ground.

As an aid to the farmers in doing this, the Bankers' Association also financed two trips for the farmers to productive cotton sections of Arkansas and Mississippi so that the farmer could learn first hand, the most approved methods of intensive cotton cultivation. One of these trips to the Delta and Pine Lumber Company's Plantation in Scott, Mississippi, and the other to the Arkansas State Experiment Station at Scott, Arkansas, filled the farmers with enthusiasm and a desire to grow more and better cotton.

Forty-nine farmers entered into this 5-acre cotton contest and employed every known method of cultivation to win a prize.

Cotton picking time came at last with each of the 49 competing farmers eager to pick and weigh his cotton. This picking and weighing was done in the presence of two disinterested judges selected by the 49 farmers themselves. In this way there was no dissatisfaction shown with results.

The winner of the first prize raised 8,500 pounds on his 5 acres, the second prize winner picked 7,900 pounds and the winner of the third prize ran him a close race with a yield of 7,875 pounds.- Paul L. Wells, County Agent, Clark County.

Georgia

Out of the 104 contestants on 3-acre cotton club effort for the year, 26 full reports were in the hands of the county agent in time to be checked up for this report. These 26 contestants, with a total of 77 acres, produced this year 31,168 pounds of lint cotton or 404-3/4 pounds of lint cotton per acre at an average cost, not including land rental, of \$8.30 per 100 pounds. This is an increase of over 200 pounds of lint cotton per acre for the county.

The highest yield per acre among the men members of the club contest was made by M. B. Hamil, Temple, Ga., R. R. 3, with 2,084 pounds of lint cotton on 3 acres. Mr. Hamil planted the Cleveland-Wanamaker, the amount of seed cotton being 4,964 pounds. He used 400 pounds of 9-3-3 fertilizer and 167 pounds of nitrate of soda with 1 ton of stable manure.

Six of the 26 contestants who reported, made above 1,500 pounds of lint on the 3 acres, 10 over 1,000 and under 1,500. The others came down as low as 710 pounds of lint on the 3 acres.

Some very striking things about this are the facts that the lowest yield cost the most money per pound, running as high as \$12.65 per 100 pounds.

Most of the contestants that made low yields used ready mixed fertilizers and no soda and home-grown seed which was badly mixed. There were some exceptions to this rule. Some planted good seed and used fertilizers but failed at some other important point, possibly in faulty preparation of the soil, or proper cultivation at the right time.-J.H.Mosely, County Agent, Haralson County.

Mississippi

Cotton demonstrations involved 3-acre blocks and were conducted in connection with the county fair. Same premiums were offered and same basis of award used. The county winner in this contest grew 606 pounds of lint cotton per acre and

Mississippi (Cont.)

showed a net profit of \$126 per acre. These cotton demonstrations proved to our people the value of liberal use of commercial fertilizer, thick spacing and intensive cultivation. --Hugh L. Hopper, County Agent, George County.

North Carolina

For the past two years, demonstrations have been carried on which proved that cotton could be grown profitably in Forsyth county. There are several reasons why the growing of cotton was advocated for Forsyth and other counties to the north: (1) A number of tenants are coming from the cotton fields farther south into a tobacco section; (2) the growing of tobacco along with cotton gives a fuller year's work; (3) small farmers that do not have wood and the necessary buildings for handling tobacco can use cotton as a money crop; (4) the damage from the boll weevil is not likely to be so great; (5) the world needs the cotton.

The local papers were used to give their readers the results of the demonstrations of the previous crops grown in the county stating the amount of cotton that Forsyth County could probably grow without decreasing her other crops, and promising that a market and a ginnery would be located conveniently to the growers. Visits to a number of school houses were made and the method of growing cotton explained. It was hoped that we might induce farmers to plant about 1,000 acres. As near as we can estimate, 2,000 acres have been planted. -Robert W. Pou, County Agent, Forsyth County.

Texas

As a result of the cotton contest in Smith and Titus counties during 1923, a great deal of interest was taken in the State in carrying on crop contests during 1924. Chambers of Commerce in 25 counties offered prizes for the largest acre yields on 5 and 10-acre tracts. Most of these contests were with cotton. In addition to the county prizes, the Dallas News, in cooperation with the Extension Service, offered a \$1,000 dollar prize for the largest yield of lint cotton on 5 acres and nearly 3,000 farmers representing every cotton section of Texas, entered the contest.

The counties in which local contests were held are as follows: Angelina, Bowie, Dickens, Eastland, Ellis, Fisher, Fannin, Franklin, Grayson, Gonzales, Harrison, Hale, Hansford, Haskell, Harris, Jasper, Kaufman, Morris, McLennan, Rush, Smith, Matagorda, Van Zandt, Waller and Wichita.

The five highest yields on 5 acres in the Dallas News contest, are as follows:

1. J.W. McFarland	Palestine	Anderson County	5,081 pounds of lint
2. F.H. Littleton	Vernon	Wilbarger County	5,030 pounds of lint
3. Philip Noto	Bryan	Brazos County	4,631 pounds of lint
4. Luther Vaughan	Buffalo	Freestone County	3,810 pounds of lint
5. W.N. Harkness	Hooks	Bowie County	3,574 pounds of lint

Texas (Cont.)

Contests have undoubtedly done a great deal of good in getting the farmer interested in increasing their acre yields by using more up-to-date methods. They proved that it is not the large acreage but the yield per acre that counts. Small yields per acre are nearly always at a loss, whereas larger yields made with only a comparatively small increase cost show a profit.

From the standpoint of good farming, probably the most effective contest was that held in Dickens where 618 out of a total of 800 farmers in the county entered the contest of growing more feed on 20 acres. Dickens County had 137 interested in the Dallas News cotton contest.

From report of C. C. Morris, County Agent, Grayson County: "With 61 farmers engaged in the 5-acre cotton contest, 15 finished up the cotton contest, making a total of 25,976 pounds of lint, or an average of 346 pounds of lint per acre, being better than double the average production for the county which is about 135 pounds per acre. The average net earning of these contestants on their 5-acre blocks was \$284.43 or an average of \$56.88 per acre. The Sherman Chamber of Commerce financed these contests and has promised to do the same thing in 1925."

From report of E. Gentry, County Agent, Smith County: "Our acre yields contest with cotton was so successful last season that I have induced the business men to put up \$2,500 this year for prizes on cotton, corn and peanuts. We will have 5-acre demonstrations in cotton, 3 acres in corn, and 2 acres on peanuts. We will have a meeting about the first of February, of about 300 farmers of the county and have the farmers who were most successful last season tell how they produced their crops. This work has done a great deal of good in an educational way as it looks like half of the farming population of the county came to me for information on fertilizing, breaking of land, seed, cultivation, and the like."

From report of B. B. Martin, County Agent, Rusk County: "This spring, the Lyons Club appointed a committee to work with county and home demonstration agents. This committee met with me in my office and crop contestants were discussed and it was agreed to hold a conference with the business men of Henderson and to raise money to offer as prizes for the best yields on 5 acres of cotton, 3 acres of corn, and 1 acre of peanuts, this to be in cooperation with county agents' work.

"The money was raised (\$650) and the contest was thrown open to all farmers in Rusk county. One hundred forty-four in cotton, 63 in corn, and 42 in peanuts entered and started their projects. Owing to the severe drought, all finally fell out but 17 in cotton, 5 in corn, and 8 in peanuts, who carried their projects to a finish and made their final reports.

"The object of this work was educational. Regardless of the extreme drought, one of the contestants made more than a bale to the acre and one more than 60 bushels of corn. I don't know of anything that could have created more interest in better farming than this contest work has. A permanent agricultural committee has been appointed and the crop contest will continue another year. A large number of farmers have already visited my office and declared that they are going to enter the contest in 1925. Two farmers who were in the contest this year are now putting out leaf mould and manure on their land, and I think this work will result in a general desire to build up the soil and grow more crops on fewer acres."

Texas (Cont.)

From report of Edmond Singleton, County Agent, Fannin County: "The following data were prepared by the county agent and published in the county papers: What relation do acre yields bear to the cost of production and net profits on the farm? This is a question that should receive the thoughtful consideration of every farmer in Fannin County. Believing that higher yields would insure greater profits and realizing that more prosperity on Fannin county farms means better business for Bonham, a number of our leading business men, last spring, put on an acre yield cotton and corn contest, offering \$1,000 in cash prizes to the farmers living in Fannin county who produced the largest yields on 5 acres. There were no restrictions whatever relating to the preparation of the land, cultivation, etc. The only requirement was that each contestant should keep accurate and complete record of the crop on blanks furnished them. This was a very liberal offer prompted by worthy motives and our business men are to be commended for their efforts to encourage and assist the farmers of the county. Due to the late announcement of the contest and the cold wet spring, only about 80 contestants entered. There were no entries in the upland corn class. The winning contestants in the other three classes were as follows:

Cotton- black and bottom lands- first prize \$200,
D.V.Hill, 8,356 lbs. seed cotton 2,798 lint cotton.

Second prize \$100, Malcolm Campbell, 10,850 pounds seed
cotton, 2,703 pounds lint cotton.

Cotton, upland, gray and sandy- first prize \$200.
W.M.Edwards, 4,510 pounds seed cotton, 1,573 pounds lint.
Second prize \$100, W.E.Thompson 4,142 pounds seed, 1,399 pounds lint."

Total number of acres in 2,507 demonstrations.....	52,214
Increased yield per acre of seed cotton.....	336 pounds
Total increased yield of seed cotton on 2,507 demonstrations.....	17,543,904 pounds
Total increased value of seed cotton at 7 cents per pound	\$1,228,043.28
Total number of acres by 1,742 club boys and girls.....	4,285
Total yield seed cotton by " " " " " "	2,732,332 pounds
Total value seed cotton by " " " " " "	\$191,273.14
Increased value from planting improved seed for first time by 4,813 farmers.....	\$926,600.00
Total number of farms practicing seed selection for first time.....	2,095
Total increased value.....	\$ 2,379,916.42

--E. A. Miller, Agronomist.

Another campaign was put on to induce the farmers to plow under their cotton stalks early, and thereby take a great step in the direction of exterminating the boll weevil. The benefits of early fall plowing were also advertised so that the farmers might have their land in better condition for planting next spring.

When the \$1,000 cotton contest was announced, the county agent endeavored to sign up a large number of farmers so that the county would receive some advertisement and boosting. Thirty farmers were signed up, one of which raised 12,275 pounds of seed cotton, yielding 5,081 pounds of lint on 5 acres and won

Texas (Cont.)

the \$1,000 prize. Approximately 3,000 Texas farmers were entered in this contest, which was put on by the Dallas News. About three weeks' time was spent in surveying the 5-acre tracts, and much time was spent in visiting the fields during the crops' growth and advising with the contestants about the crop, and explaining the rules of the contest. --J. T. Carlisle, County Agent, Anderson Co.

This year 11 farmers entered the "More Cotton Per Acre" contest inaugurated by the Dallas Semi-Weekly Farm News. A great number were not in the contest for the reason that the announcement was received after crops were planted or arrangements had already been made for the year, but the fact that Philip Noto of Steele's store came out third in the contest, with a production of 12,360 pounds of seed cotton and 4,631 pounds of lint, or 131 pounds more than nine 500-pound bales, is evidence that a new day has dawned for the cotton industry in Brazos County. Even more remarkable is this record made by Mr. Noto when it is remembered that his crop received no rain after June 2.--Curtis L. Beason, County Agent, Brazos County.

The Dublin Lions Club offered \$100 in prizes for the most lint cotton grown on 5 acres in Dublin trade territory this year. Although the offer was not made until May, 17 farmers entered the contest. No special preparation was made on the acreage entered as it was too late. Eleven of these men turned in their records. The average of these men was better than one-fourth bale per acre, whereas the community average has been estimated at from one-sixth to one-ninth. The four winners are Weldon Bradley, 1,649 pounds; T. M. Cook, 1,437 pounds; R. A. Self, 1,041 pounds; and J. K. Grissom, 935 pounds. Bradley's and Cook's fields have both had liberal applications of stable manure within the past three years. This contest has set a number of men to thinking. Through choosing the wrong type of land and age of cotton, Audry Ellis' contest acres averaged lower than his entire crop, yet he said in a note to me, "I'm not through. I believe I can grow more cotton on less acreage and do it with more profit."

The award of the prizes will be made at the Lions Club luncheon January 2, 1925. The winners and the committee of farmers have been invited to this luncheon. The plans for another year's work will be discussed at this meeting. --Mark Buckingham, County Agent, Erath County.

A 20-acre cotton contest was launched early in the year by the Plainview Chamber of Commerce. The agent cooperated in planning the contest and getting a large number of farmers to enter. Over 500 entries were secured, which meant that more than 10,000 acres of cotton would be given better than average care and attention in the attempt to win the premiums. Scores of contestants have advised with the agent in regard to the best methods of handling the crop. A meeting of the contestants was held on the closing day for entries. The meeting was attended by about 50 farmers and was addressed by R. E. Karper, Superintendent of the Lubbock sub-station, who afterward led a round table discussion on cotton raising on the plains, and answered numerous questions in regard to the results at Lubbock. The contest will come to a close some time in January. It is planned to hold a meeting on the date the winners are announced and the winners will be asked to tell just how they raised their crops.

Numerous farmers have conferred with the agent during the year in regard to varieties of seed and methods of preparation, planting and cultivating crops. --E. W. Thomas, County Agent, Hale County.

Texas (Cont.)

Through P. H. Manire, Manager of the Local Oil Mill, \$300 was offered as prizes for the most cotton raised on 5 acres of land. Ten men were to be selected by the County Board of Agriculture in different parts of the county. These 10 contestants agreed to cultivate the 5 acres of cotton according to the directions of the county agent. Two farmers dropped out of the contest before it was well started. Of the remaining eight, six have submitted final reports. On the 30 acres represented by the 6 farmers, they averaged 473 pounds. Of seed cotton per acre more than they or any of their close neighbors made per acre on any 5 acres of other cotton. The six farmers made a total of 9,126 pounds of lint cotton, a little better than eighteen 500-pound bales. The highest yield in the contest was six 500-pound bales and the lowest was 1-1/4 bales. Harrison county will make about 16,000 bales from approximately 110,000 acres, about one bale to every 7 acres, while the 6 farmers in this contest will make approximately 1 bale to every 1 2/3 acres. They are making approximately 4 1/8 times as much cotton per acre on these 5 acre plots as the county is making per acre. We used only high grade fertilizers, about 500 pounds per acre. Thorough preparation of the land before time to plant and continuous shallow cultivation during the growing period was practiced. More cotton on the ground than they usually permitted was adhered to.

We made a tour of the contestants' fields about the first of July. Several bankers and merchants, Mr. Manire and most of the contestants made the trip. This trip was well worth while. In fact, the contest has been of great value. Numbers of farmers will attempt this next year to make fewer acres do what a greater number of acres have been doing. I have several farmers now that want to farm 5 acres under my direction next year, even though we have no 5 acre contest. A general get-together banquet will be given this month by Mr. Manire and the Oil Mill to the contestants and others interested in cotton production. We expect it to be well attended and well worth while.-M.R.Martin, County Agent, Harrison County.

The average yield of lint cotton per acre for this county is about one-fourth of a bale or 166 pounds. In 1923 the yield was much lower than this. With this low yield in view, a cotton contest was started in the county for the purpose of encouraging larger yields per acre, thru intense cultivation, planting good seed and systematically fighting insects. The Jas.W.Rugeley Company put up prizes of \$150, \$100, and \$50 for the largest yield of lint cotton on 5 acres. There were about 30 farmers entered this contest but only 16 of this number kept any records and competed for the prizes.-L.A. Pierce, County Agent, Matagorda County.

Fifty farmers of this county entered the local cotton contest and cooperated with the agent in putting on fertilizer demonstrations. The average yield from these plots was 300 pounds of lint cotton per acre or about threetimes as much as the average yield for the county.-W.R.Morgan, County Agent, Morris County.

To stimulate farmers to give cotton a thorough trial in this section, the business men of Amarillo offered \$2,500 in premiums to the 12 farmers who would grow the best 10 acres of cotton in the Amarillo Trade Territory. Prizes offered were one each of \$500, \$400, \$300, \$250, \$200 and three each of \$150 and four each of \$100.

A large proportion of the work involved in this contest fell upon the county agent. Three leaflets on cotton culture were prepared by the agent and distributed and the location of good planting seed was quite a task. It was our first intention to use seed grown nearby in 1923, but tests of germination

2206.

Texas (Cont.)

of all seed located north of a line drawn through Quanah and Slaton showed this seed to be low in germination, ranging from 5 per cent to 43 per cent. Good planting seed was finally located in Slaton, Sweetwater, and Snyder territories. Satisfactory stands were obtained from this seed where conditions were favorable. Much additional time was required in formulating plans, listing and instructing visiting farmers in the cotton contest. Two hundred seventy-six farmers entered the contest early in the spring. Owing to rains, drouth, winds, grasshoppers and weeds, all but 67 were eliminated; these 67 men were visited on two separate occasions by the committee on awards. Reports of how each grew his cotton is on file in the office.--Harmon Benton, County Agent, Potter and Oldham Counties.

The average yield of cotton in Smith county this year is a bale to 7 acres, hence demonstrations show that under proper handling, the yield can be increased considerably. One hundred thirty-five farmers signed up for a demonstration in cotton production but on account of the drouth, many of them fell out, yet Will Price, 2 miles west of Tyler, made 7 bales and 9 pounds of lint on 5 acres. D. H. Haskins, 7 miles east of Tyler, made 6-1/4 bales on 5 acres. John Johnson, 8 miles south of Tyler, made 5 bales on 5 acres. These were wonderful yields considering the fact that no rain fell from the time the cotton came up until harvesting. Not a week passed when these men did not come to my office for instructions or I would go out to their farms and go over the demonstrations with them.

It should not be understood that all the farmers of the county are making such progress, yet these demonstrations are doing more to awaken them to possibilities than ever. Another good feature is that the bankers and business men of the towns are taking more notice of these demonstrations and are offering prizes for these crops. More than \$2,500 was offered this year in the county and it was the easiest money to collect that has ever been collected from business men here.--E. Gentry, County Agent, Smith County.

Boys' Clubs and Contests

Alabama

Cotton has already been mentioned as one of our major projects. The work was done with boys as well as with men. The work with boys was in some instances outstanding. County Agent S. M. Day did a very remarkable piece of work. Early in the year he organized 11 clubs making arrangements with local banks and business men to finance the members of these clubs in buying seed, fertilizers and calcium arsenate. Each boy agreed to plant pure seed, to fertilize his acre of cotton with 400 number of 16 per cent acid phosphate, 200 pounds of nitrate of soda and 25 pounds muriate of potash, which is the fertilizer recommended by the Alabama Experiment Station. These boys, 142 in all, planted their cotton and followed the agent's instructions and 141 made reports. Of the 141 boys, 79 made 79 bales of cotton on 79 acres averaging 516 pounds. One boy of the 141 made no cotton. The 140 boys averaged a bale weighing 416 pounds with an average net profit per boy per acre of \$58.07. A number of other agents did some very excellent work along this line. A girl in Marshall County of which Eric Alsobrook is county agent, produced 2 bales of cotton on one acre which made her a net profit of \$159.72.--Narrative Report, District No. 3, E.E.Binford, District Agent, Northeast Dist.

Boys' Club and Contests

Alabama (Cont.)

The youngest demonstrator I have is a boy 11 years of age who planted and worked one acre of cotton. During the winter we put on that acre 30 loads of farm manure averaging about a ton to the load. He broke it and harrowed it well during the winter and harrowed it over four more times at intervals of about two weeks, thus making a well pulverized seed bed. The cotton was planted during the first week in April and it was given seven cultivations and four hoeings. From this acre he picked a bale of cotton weighing 545 pounds. His cotton is not yet sold. This should not be taken to mean that he is the only one that did well, but he is mentioned especially on account of his age. - P.J. Brown, Negro County Agent, Hale and Marengo Counties.

We enrolled 156 boys in the club work this year and have been very successful, especially with our crop projects. We have 91 members in the Cotton Club. Each boy signed a note with his father to purchase 400 pounds of nitrate of soda and 25 pounds of muriate of potash and 6 pecks of Cooks 10-10 cotton seed. These notes were endorsed by the Pickens County Farm Bureau and the bank of Carrollton financed the work. These 91 boys made an average of 933-5/6 lbs. of seed cotton per acre. It was ginned in clean gins and the seed is being sold at \$2 per bushel. The boys pooled 58 bales of this cotton and are holding for higher prices. - F.A. Raw, County Agent, Pickens County.

California

Cotton, a new type of club project in this State, has been paying so well in the valley the past two years that several club members have asked to join such a contest. The water shortage then began so that only two went through with the work. They both had accessible pump water which enabled them to raise good crops; producing 3,175 pounds of first grade raw cotton on only 1-3/4 acres of land. They realized a total net profit of \$99.80 in 9 months time or an average of \$49.90 each on less than one acre after deducting the cost of labor, material and rental.

One boy's father, a vine yardist, who allowed the boy to use the land only to kill out the Bermuda grass by clean cultivation, was so impressed by the results of the boy's work that he expects to plant a large acreage himself next year. - A.F. Gillette, County Club Leader, Fresno County.

Georgia

The Kiwanis Club of Sylvester, Worth County, chose to foster the cotton club project as a group. They also took the "buddy" idea, appointing two Kiwanians as buddies to each cotton club boy. The boys were entertained at luncheon when the organization of the cotton club was formed and again at the conclusion of the contest. There were 25 boys in the contest who produced 25 bales of cotton averaging 399 pounds lint per acre at an average profit of \$80.25 per acre. - G.V. Cunningham, State Boys' Club Agent.

Georgia (Contd.)

Prior to 1924, Houston County practically stopped trying to grow cotton on account of the boll weevil and focused her attention on peaches. This year Agent O'Neal organized a boys' cotton club of 40 members and directed them along the general outline followed by other cotton club members. Two of these boys produced more than 1 bale on their acres and eight others ranged from $2/3$ to 1 bale with the majority averaging about 800 pounds of seed cotton. It is interesting to note that while the peach situation in Houston County this year struck the bottom, these boys came through with colors flying, the father of one of these boys stating that his boy made more money on his acre of cotton than he did on his entire peach crop. -P.H. Stone, Negro Club Leader.

Perhaps the most outstanding cooperative project conducted in the Mason District was the Junior cotton project in Pulaski County. The local Kiwanis Club heard of the proposed plan from the agent and agreed to finance 25 boys in different communities of the county. When the matter was presented to the boys through the five consolidated schools there were 43 boys applying for the Kiwanis Club aid and 10 others asked for aid from other individuals.

The boys gave notes for \$15 each and their parents signed agreements not to hinder but to encourage the boys in following the agent's instructions. Each Kiwanian chose a "buddy" and signed the note with him. The notes were carried to the bank by O. D. Hall, County Agent, and money was borrowed to purchase for each of the boys 600 pounds of high grade fertilizer, 30 pounds of calcium arsenate, 75 pounds of nitrate of soda and one bushel of improved cotton seed. The boys came in at a stipulated time and got their materials. An individual sign was painted and placed on the acre of each boy. The sign read, "Boys' cotton demonstration under auspices of Kiwanis Club; supervision of County Agent; grower, J. F. Saunders, 1 bushel College No. 1 seed; 600 pounds 12-3-3 fertilizer, 75 pounds nitrate of soda, 30 pounds calcium arsenate."

During the planting and the growing season the boys were instructed by letters and visits. Good cooperation on the whole was obtained. At odd times each Kiwanian visited his buddy. On July 28, 29 and 30 the club visited all of the boys' cotton acres. This was a fine thing for all parties concerned. A gin day was set and all of the cotton grown by the boys was ginned in order to keep the seed from being mixed with other varieties.

The average production of seed cotton was a little above 1,000 pounds on 50 farms. They grew 45 bales on 55 acres. One boy failed to use poison until late and he gathered only 330 pounds of seed cotton. The county average production was 500 pounds.

The Kiwanis committee set October 16 as the date to sell the cotton. By this date some of the boys had sold their cotton but 30 bales were sold on this date. Eighteen of the 30 bales brought 22-15/16 cents; 8 brought 22- $\frac{1}{2}$ cents; and 4 bales brought 20-3/4 cents.

The influence for improvement in cotton production methods is marked as a result of the good work done by the juniors and fostered by the Kiwanis Club. - J.A. Johnson, District Agent.

Georgia (Cont.)

The results of the boys' cotton club are very interesting and the club has been the means of getting many farmers to take up better methods. Practically every boy made a bale of cotton on his acre. Even those who fell short of the bale made a good profit. One boy in Troup County set a record in junior work for the State. He produced 1,012 pounds of lint cotton. This boy is the son of a tenant farmer and did not have any special advantages in producing his crop. There were many boys who produced exceptionally good crops on their acres. One in Coweta County produced 945 pounds of lint cotton. Most of the agents sold their club members' cotton at auction, making quite an advertising feature of it and creating lots of interest among the boys. The 358 boys completing their work in the club, as reported on by 18 agents, produced 514,239 pounds of seed cotton. This amount of cotton on the present market is worth \$41,139.12. Many of the agents sold the cotton above the market price. This is cotton that would not have been produced had it not been for the agent's efforts. Practically all of the cotton club projects were financed by the banks. The banks loaned the money to buy fertilizer, poison, dust guns, pure seed, etc. The boys paid the notes when they sold their cotton and deposited the balance, most of them starting an account to go to college on. It is remarkable to see some of the "converts" and hear them talk after their boys have been enrolled in the club a year. I heard one man in Spaulding County make the assertion that if he had known what his boy had taught him about growing cotton 15 years ago, he would be worth three times as much money as he is now. He has been following the old slipshod method of producing cotton all his life, using 10-2-2 fertilizer, thinking that one sack of fertilizer was as good as another.-L.I. Skinner, District Agent, Atlanta.

In order to advance the movement and educate the farmer in cotton production I went before the Farmers' Club at their meeting in January and outlined to them a plan for forming a group of rural school boys into a club to grow one acre each of cotton. The Farmers' Club agreed to sponsor the club and the First National Bank, whose vice-president is a member of the Farmers' Club undertook to under-write the financial part of the proposition which included the furnishing of pure seed of one variety (Cleveland Big Boll), 800 pounds of 12-4-4 fertilizer per acre, and sufficient calcium arsenate to control the weevil. It was agreed that 35 boys scattered well over the county would be ample for this project. Each boy was required to sign a contract and note for the amount advanced him, this note and contract bearing no other endorsement than that of the boy. The average yield for the 35 boys was about 1,000 pounds of seed cotton and the average net return for each boy, after taking into consideration every item of expense, will be between \$40 and \$50. One boy's expense was extraordinarily high, \$73, yet his acre will show a profit of \$45.-L.E. Swain, County Agent, Baldwin County.

As the growing of cotton had been unsatisfactory in the last few years, I selected 22 cotton club boys to grow 22 acres under improved methods of cultivation, fertilization and marketing. For demonstration purposes in the county, I had the boys to first agree on the kind of cotton seed to be used (which was Petties Improved), the amount of fertilizer to be used per acre (800 pounds) and the amount of calcium arsenate to be used to poison the boll weevil, which was 20 pounds. I then arranged with the local bank for these boys to borrow sufficient funds to pay cash for their seed, fertilizer and calcium arsenate. They also agreed that in case any boy got sick during the season that they would go to his assistance in cultivating, gathering and marketing his cotton. These 22 boys grew 22 bales ranging in weight from 587 pounds to 384 pounds. The total weight

Georgia (Contd.)

of the 22 bales was 10,401 pounds. The total cost of growing the 22 bales was \$936.40. The average cost per pound for lint cotton for the 22 boys was nine cents. On October 15, all the boys brought their cotton to the gin where arrangements had been made with the ginner to thoroughly clean out the gin in order to keep the seed pure. He also gave a reduction in price in ginning. About half of the boys sold their cotton direct to the Fitzgerald Cotton Mill with an advance of 18 cents per pound and the privilege of the increase for six months. The others placed their cotton with the Association. The boy producing the largest bale of cotton which weighed 587 pounds, was awarded a \$10 premium by the manager of the Union Cotton Oil Company, the one producing the second largest bale weighing 574 pounds was awarded a premium of \$5 in gold by the Exchange National Bank, and the boy producing the third largest bale weighing 532 pounds was given a free trip to the Southeastern fair at Atlanta.-C.T.Owens, County Agent, Ben Hill County.

Only two of the boys who entered the contests have made their reports. They are Huell Hamil, Temple, and J. V. Waldron, Buchanan, R. I. Huell used the same land on which he grew $71\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of corn last year. He made 1964 pounds of seed cotton and 824 pounds of lint with 600 pounds of 9-3-3 and 335 pounds of sod at a total cost, not including land rent, of \$51.28. He used the Cleveland-Wanamaker seed. This was a practically worn-out field just a few years ago. His success was due to proper method of preparation and cultivation. His land lies adjacent to the State highway and is a model for the whole county.-J.H. Mosely, County Agent, Haralson County.

To begin the season I had 66 boys in the cotton club, of this number seven failed to keep a record, but made an average of 400 pounds of lint cotton to the acre. These seven boys will not be counted in the following survey of club boys.

Of the other 59 boys, 11 sold their cotton before sales day and for some reason or other 4 failed to bring their cotton in on that day. So on October 31, 44 boys brought 44 bales of cotton to Covington and it was sold at public auction to the highest bidder. Ten bales were graded middling and brought $22\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound, 22 bales were graded middling and brought 25 cents per pound, all of the cotton brought from 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound above the market of that day.

We produced an average of 450 pounds of lint cotton per acre on the 59 club acres that were carried through the year. All of these boys followed the frequent and shallow cultivation. They used the home-made syrup mixture for the first two applications of poison, then they used calcium arsenate in dust form. We started poisoning the cotton when it had four leaves on it, using dry calcium arsenate in dust form. The boys used College No. 1 and Cleveland-Wanamaker cotton seed. There was practically no difference in the amount of seed cotton, although the College Number 1 turned out the highest per cent of lint.-George William Robinson, County Agent, Newton County.

A cotton club was organized in Telfair County this year for the first time. Fifteen boys signed up for one acre each of cotton and were given instructions from time to time at their homes and in the county agent's office and every boy was successful this year. The methods of growing the cotton were given by the Georgia State College of Agriculture and written by Frank Ward, Cotton Specialist for the State. Pure seed of wilt resistant variety was used and a 10-4-4 fertilizer applied at time of planting. The Government method of controlling the boll weevil was used preceded by two applications of syrup mixture.

Georgia (Cont.)

The fifteen acres of cotton were scattered over the county and at every place there were farmers who were competing with the boys in making yields. A good bit of interest was manifested all the year in the projects but most at the auction sale.-Troy Edwards, County Agent, Telfair County.

My cotton club acres were a little disappointing, they did not get all the vim and push behind them they should have had, some got poor encouragement at home and there were various other reasons. 3,670 pounds were produced in all. Interest will be better another year.-H.A.Cliett, County Agent, Wilkinson County.

Louisiana

The main points emphasized in the cotton club were: (1)- Good seed of early variety; (2) fertilization; and (3) boll-weevil control. The extent to which instructions were followed is shown by the yields obtained by club members as compared with adult farmers growing cotton under the same conditions. All boys reporting show an average yield of 964 pounds of seed cotton per acre as compared with approximately half that amount by the State as a whole. The total amount produced by the boys was 308,695 pounds, with a total net profit of \$20,567.50.

The cost of growing an acre of cotton under present conditions causes many boys to hesitate to undertake this project. This is overcome in some places by having local business men assist the boys in getting the supplies necessary. This plan was used in East Baton Rouge Parish, where the Kiwanis Club fostered the cotton club, endorsing notes for the boys so that money for seed, fertilizer, poison and dust gins could be obtained from local banks. In every case, the notes were paid by the boys either before or on date of maturity. This plan will be used in 1925 in several other sections of the State.

A few answers to the questions asked in the record books may be taken as indicative of the better farming lessons being learned. Roy Gatlin, of Grant Parish, who made 2,460 pounds on his acre says peas and beans made his land rich, that he broke his land deep and thoroughly early in January, and cultivated his cotton every week up to July 21st. Ella Sands of the same parish, who made 2,527 pounds of seed cotton on her acre, says the land was broken deep the first of February, and the cotton was cultivated with a shallow running cultivator once each week until just before picking time. The champion cotton club member of the State and of the entire South as far as we have been able to learn is Claude Craighead of Athens.- W. C. Abbott, State Club Leader.

Special attention should be called to the acre cotton contest for boys. A special premium of \$25 was offered for the club boy who grew the most cotton on one acre of ground. Ewell Horne of the tenth ward of Ascension Parish won second in this contest, yet he used no fertilizer and was competing against boys who had been cotton club members several years. Ewell made 2,094 pounds of seed cotton on a measured acre. Applied to every acre of cotton grown in this parish this would have been worth a thousand bales of cotton valued at \$120,000.-C.C.Chapman, County Agent, Ascension Parish.

Louisiana (Cont.)

Claude Craighead, a cotton-club member living near Athens, has made the most outstanding record in club work in Claiborne Parish this year, and so far as his success with his project is concerned he has probably led the State. On one acre of land this boy produced nearly 3,000 pounds of seed cotton, which ginned 1,350 pounds, or 3 light bales of lint. This was accomplished under the most adverse weather conditions. A cold late spring and the frequent rains delayed the crop and made it difficult to get a stand and get the cotton started to growing. Then following a rain on June 12th the crop did not receive another rain until maturity. The drought was so severe that the corn crop of the parish was a total failure, but this club member managed to get his acre through in good shape. About 1,600 pounds of high grade commercial fertilizer consisting of nitrate of soda, acid phosphate and kainite was used towards securing this production. This club boy was awarded the first prize of \$50 at the Louisiana State Fair for the highest production of cotton on one acre in the State. His per acre production was greater than that of the adult farmers who were competing for the highest yield on five acres. The highest yield secured in the State on the five acre plots was 11 bales, or a little over two bales per acre.-C.W.Davis, County Agent, Claiborne Parish.

We have done more with the cotton club work this year than we have in the past. In the early spring, with the aid of W. R. Perkins, Director of Extension Work in Louisiana, and also a member of the Kiwanis Club of Baton Rouge, we were able to interest this club in helping boys who wanted financial backing to grow cotton. Several cotton club members were financed in the same way. This club of business men endorsed notes for club members at the three local banks for enough money to purchase seed, fertilizer, calcium arsenate and the dusting green. There were eight boys who wanted to grow cotton that took advantage of this opportunity to finance their crop.-Irvin J. Heath, Club Agent, East Baton Rouge Parish.

Mississippi

Practically all county agents in the State have some cotton club work. We had an enrollment of 2,490 members in the cotton clubs, including nine girls. Of these, 1,505 completed the work. These club members made an average of 1,055 pounds of seed cotton per acre, or twice the average of the State. In some of the counties the yields produced by the boys were remarkable. For instance, in LeFlore County the cotton club members made an average yield of 1,777 pounds of seed cotton and an average of 553 pounds of lint. In Coahoma County, 60 boys made an average of 1,575 pounds of seed cotton, yielding an average of 515 pounds of lint per acre. These yields were not obtained by excessive use of fertilizer. In the above two counties only an average of 200 pounds of nitrate of soda was used. Economic, as well as successful production, is taught these boys as shown by the fact that the average yield of 1,055 pounds of seed cotton or an average of 350 pounds of lint cotton was produced by all of the cotton clubs in the State. The average net profit was \$65 per acre. And not only are the boys taught efficient production, but in some of the counties the work was carried further.-R. S. Wilson, Extension Director.

Mississippi (Cont.)

Results:

98 Cotton-club members enrolled.

98 Cotton-club members completed project and submitted reports, showing average yield of 975 pounds seed cotton, total value \$114.85 net profit of \$87.50 per acre. Average yield of county as a whole 802 pounds seed cotton.

70 bales of cotton sold cooperatively at a premium of 1-3/4 cents above New Orleans market on date of sale.

1,600 bushels purebred cotton seed for sale. - Jas.E.Tanner, State Boys' Club Agent.

When Agent Douglas assumed his duties in Clay County on February 1, he found a hostile sentiment prevailing in practically every community of the county especially among the adult farmers. This was especially true of the Montpelier community, one of the largest in the county, and located practically in the center of the county. None of these adult farmers were interested in extension work. However, with the active cooperation of the county superintendent of education, Mr. Saul, who was a former resident of the community and very popular there, Agent Douglas enrolled about 25 boys in his cotton club project. One of the banks of West Point agreed to finance the boys in the purchase of seed, fertilizer and poison, and another offered a free subscription to a leading farm journal to all boys who joined a club and conducted a demonstration according to instructions of the county agent. To make a long story short, these 25 cotton clubs in Montpelier community made an average yield of almost a bale of cotton per acre, a few of them a bale and a half. The same thing happened all over Clay County and there is not a more popular county agent among the people of his county in Mississippi, one who has better cooperation of every class of citizen, than Agent Douglas, and he says that club work "turned the trick".-Jas. E. Tanner, State Club Agent.

After getting these data, Mr. Hand went to his superintendent of education, F. M. Coleman, and laid these facts before him together with his plan for the solution of what he considered Hinds county's greatest economic problem. The plan was approved by Mr. Coleman and the active cooperation of the County Department of Education was pledged. Mr. Hand then presented his plan to the directors of the Hinds County Farm Bureau who approved the plan and gave it financial backing. After the budget was approved and arrangements were made through The Merchants Bank and Trust Company, Jackson, Mississippi, to furnish the money to Mr. Hand and superintendent of education, Mr. Coleman went out to the 14 consolidated schools of the county and organized his cotton club of 150 members. Each local unit was organized into a Boys' Community Agricultural Club with the principal of the school as community club leader.

After a brief conference with the manager of the experiment station an improved strain of Meband Triumph cotton was selected for use by the club and pure seed of this variety procured.

Specific requirements: Each member was required first, to plant six pecks of seed per acre; second, to use a standard fertilizer composed of 200 pounds nitrate of soda, 400 pounds of 16 per cent acid phosphate, and 50 pounds of muriate of potash; third, practice thick spacing; fourth, one row in the middle of the field to be thin spaced; fifth, three rows (extra) on side of his acre to

Mississippi (Cont.)

be planted and cultivated but no fertilizer used; sixth, the thin spaced row and the three unfertilized rows to be harvested separately and the results recorded so that the value of thick versus thin spacing, and the fertilization versus no fertilizer might be demonstrated.

Suitable sign boards were prepared for each club member, giving the name of the boy, the amount and kind of fertilizer used, the variety of cotton and the character of spacing practiced. Two small signs marked the thin spaced and the unfertilized rows.

The boys selected their demonstration plats as far as practicable along the surfaced highways of the county, posting their sign boards in a conspicuous place at the end of their plats in order to advertise their demonstration to the traveling public. As soon as the enrollment was completed and the community clubs were organized, club rallies were held at seven convenient shipping points in the county to which seed, fertilizer and sign boards had been previously shipped and each of the 14 community club leaders were notified as to the rally his club should attend. On the dates designated the boys and their fathers assembled at their respective meeting places, and the community club leaders distributed to each club boy one sign board, 6 pecks of cotton seed, and 650 pounds of fertilizer. A free luncheon was served to the boys by the local business men and a free educational picture show was provided in the afternoon.

Under the supervision of the community club leaders the boys prepared the land, fertilized, planted and cultivated their cotton according to instructions furnished by the county agent and kept a careful record of every operation in the official club record book furnished them by the club division. Owing to the excessive and almost incessant rains through the growing and fruiting season some of the plats that were located on low or level ground nearly drowned out, and all were damaged greatly. A heavy infestation of boll weevil further reduced the yield but in spite of these handicaps the average yields produced by these 150 boys exceeded the county average by almost 300 per cent. Twenty boys made yields ranging from 800 to 1,400 pounds of seed cotton per acre, though a few made as little as 250 pounds per acre.

According to plan, October 6 was decided on as ginning day for the cotton club boys. Arrangements were made by the county agent with a local gin at Jackson for the exclusive use of one of their twin gins. All flues and gin stands were carefully cleaned so that the cotton seed could be kept pure. All the boys and community club leaders were instructed to bring or ship their cotton to this gin on the date named. The cotton was received, weighed, and the bags tagged by the community club leaders and the boys given a receipt for their cotton. The cotton was then ginned and as nearly as possible packed in even weight 500 pound bales and the seed packed in new 100-pound bags and delivered to the Hinds County Farm Bureau. The cotton was then sold cooperatively and brought approximately one cent a pound more than the prevailing price on the local market for that day. Wednesday was designated as Pay-Up-Day. From the proceeds of their cotton and seed the boys' notes were paid, the balance determined and checks made out and given directly to the boys. The average net profit made by these 150 boys was approximately \$50 while some of them, after paying all expenses, received as high as \$138.

Mississippi (Cont.)

The Hinds County Cotton Club exhibit was one of the features of the Mississippi State Fair. Each boy made an exhibit of his product, consisting of one quart of seed, one-fourth pound lint, and 10 open bolls placed in a three compartment box with glass over, together with a picture of the boy on his demonstration plat and a completed record book of his demonstration.-Jas. E. Tanner, State Boys' Club Agent.

In conducting cotton clubs the county agent emphasized the best cultural methods, such things as thorough preparation of the soil and a good firm seed bed before planting, good seed, frequent shallow cultivation and the proper use of commercial fertilizers. In cotton culture, we also recommend thick spacing and poisoning when necessary. These things were put into practice to a large extent this year by a number of our boys. As a result of these methods the average yield of cotton for our boys this year was 725 pounds of seed cotton per acre. Also 90 cotton club boys grew a bale more per acre this year.- George C. Cypress, Negro Boys' Club Agent.

The cotton-club work was organized on a definite basis, each boy being required to have exactly 1 acre of land. The types of soil were divided into two divisions with fertilizer recommendations for each type. Boys cultivating a cotton demonstration on black or lime land were required to use 200 pounds of nitrate of soda as fertilizer. Boys cultivating a cotton demonstration on other soil types were required to use 200 pounds of nitrate of soda, 200 pounds of acid phosphate and 100 pounds of kainite in a home mixture, as a fertilizer.

Each cotton club boy was also required to plant $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of Willis Triumph cotton seed on his demonstration and to space according to instructions. All this material was required and the cost of the same was totaled and put into a note at no interest maturing on the 15th of October.

Also each boy added \$2 to his note for the purchase of poison to poison the boll weevil. The material furnished consisted of 31 pounds of calcium arsenate and two gallons of molasses and a mop. The notes for the cotton club boys in the lime lands amounted to \$10.60 and the notes for the boys in other soil types amounted to \$12.90.

There were 105 cotton-club boys with an average yield of seed cotton of 1,047 pounds to the acre or 366 pounds of lint. It is expected that the seed will easily pay for the fertilizer and other expenses incurred in the note. The cotton returned an average of \$80.52 per acre at 22 cents a pound.

The largest yield was 2,012 pounds of seed cotton while the smallest yield was 160 pounds. The latter was made with cows grazing on it which was not fair to the boy or the project. Nine boys made over 1,500 pounds of seed cotton and 21 boys made more than a 500-pound bale of lint.- Thos. E. Douglas, County Agent, Clay County.

Cotton being the one money crop and of most economical importance, it is the only crop used in boys' club work in the county. This year we had 96 cotton club boys who averaged a fraction better than 500 pounds of lint cotton per acre. Ten of the best acres averaged 750 pounds of lint cotton per acre and while the training the boy gets is the principal motive of this club work it is entirely probable that it will serve as an immediate stimulus to increase the yields of cotton for the county. We won the State championship for the best yielding acre and best club record for the State this year with 820 pounds of staple cotton. This cotton was produced at a cost of less than three cents per pound.-O.G. Steele, County Agent, Coahoma County.

Mississippi (Cont.)

Eleven boys taking cotton as their projects have submitted reports of their work. Nineteen and sixty-three hundredths of an acre were cultivated with a yield of 22,392 pounds of seed cotton or 7,649 pounds of lint, or an average yield of 389 pounds of lint cotton per acre. The 19.63 acres show a net profit of \$1,367.91 after deducting an expense of \$728.24 for cost of production.

Rufus Wright, Jr., has done some outstanding work as a club boy this year. I helped his father select and measure the two acres he planted in cotton. The land had been in pasture for the last four years. The two acres extended alongside of a dry ditch and run up on the side of a gentle slope. Five tons of barnyard manure were used on the thin poor spots up on the slope and 200 pounds of nitrate of soda and 300 pounds of 18 acid phosphate were used per acre. The cotton was first planted on April 19, at which time 150 pounds of nitrate of soda and 200 pounds of acid phosphate were applied per acre. When the cotton was replanted on May 13th, 50 pounds more nitrate of soda and 100 pounds more acid phosphate were applied per acre just before planting.

Rufus got a fair stand of cotton from his second planting but after it hoed out some of it died. He saved a stand that would average a stalk to about every 12 inches. It was cultivated well, and dusted once with calcium arsenate for boll weevil control.

This cotton was picked first on September 23 when 1,680 pounds were picked. It was picked again beginning October 17th and finished October 22nd at which time 1,966 pounds more of seed cotton were picked. This cotton was picked the third time beginning November 22 and finished November 26 at which time 555 pounds were picked. Rufus has made a net profit of \$304.03 on his two acres of cotton. As reports have not been received from all the club boys at this time, I am unable to state just what this boy's winnings are in prizes. Four thousand two hundred and one pounds have been picked off the two acres.

After club work had been presented to the boys in the Eudora consolidated school and the boys were given an opportunity to join the club, Mr. Dean, a leading merchant of Eudora, offered to finance every boy who needed help in getting pure seed, fertilizers, and poison, and to furnish these at cost. He also offered the boys who took cotton as their project a clear receipt for their fertilizer and poison provided they worked diligently, followed the agent's instructions and made as much as one-half bale of cotton per acre. Six boys took cotton as their project and five of these have turned in their reports to me.

The five boys reporting had 8.78 acres in cotton. They produced 10,560 pounds of seed cotton and 3,628 pounds lint cotton. The boy making the greatest yield got 3,130 pounds of seed cotton and 1,065 pounds of lint from two acres. The boy getting the smallest yield got 1,710 pounds of seed cotton and 585 pounds of lint from two acres. Each of these boys had their fertilizer and poison given to them. The boy getting the greatest yield showed a net profit of \$204 on his two acres after charging the cotton with all expenses and the fertilizer and poison which were given to him by Mr. Dean. Other boys in the county who had cotton projects made good yields. Poor stands cut their yields more than any other one factor. - G. C. Mingee, County Agent, Desoto County.

Mississippi (Cont.)

Our cotton club boys used $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre blocks of land. Our idea for using more than the acre plat was that each boy might grow sufficient crop to gin a bale of his own cotton, thus being more likely to save his seed pure and being able to market his own crop. Out of 58 boys doing cotton club work only one failed to gin his own bale of cotton. Our county farm bureau furnished the cotton club boys with fertilizer and seed taking their notes for the amount due in the fall. We furnished them 240 pounds of nitrate of soda, 240 pounds of acid phosphate and 120 pounds of kainite per acre. The average yield on these $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre blocks was 1,608 pounds of seed cotton. Owing to the dry weather at planting time very few of the boys had a good stand, and many of them had barely a half stand. Fertilizing, planting, spacing and cultivating was done as advocated by our south Mississippi experiment station. I know of a number of cases where fathers followed instructions given the club boys. - Hugh L. Hopper, County Agent, George County.

The directors of the local farm bureau decided that if Jefferson Davis County kept pace with modern agriculture they would have to do something to improve the standard of cotton. So after several consultations we decided the best way to get after this work was to do so with the club boys of the county. The finances of this organization being limited they decided to furnish 50 boys of the county with 200 pounds of nitrate of soda, 300 pounds of acid phosphate, six pecks of seed and the required amount of calcium arsenate to poison against the boll weevil if needed. We set out to get Trice cotton seed for the boys as directed by the south Mississippi experiment station at Poplarville, but being unable to find this seed as pure as we wanted, we used some very highly bred Lone Star 65 seed. These club members were distributed over the county with 10 to each supervisor's district, so that each project acre would serve as a demonstration to as many farmers as we could possibly reach. Most of the boys did not get good stands of cotton, none of them got a perfect stand. The average was possibly about 60 per cent. This one thing was very discouraging to the boys in the beginning of their work but when the end of the harvest came we found them making an average of 1,892 pounds of seed cotton per acre. This cotton was so much in demand that none of the boys have asked the county agent to try and find a market for their seed which was in the agreement. They have found a very ready sale for the seed themselves, very few of them leaving their father's farms. - Clyde Smith, County Agent, Jefferson Davis County.

The boys in the cotton club made an outstanding success in their clubs although it had not rained any during the maturing season of the cotton. There was not a single rain after the 30th of June that fell on the club acres. This extreme drought necessarily controlled the boll weevil to a certain extent, and damage done by weevils was very slight. - D.C. Morris, County Agent, Lamar County.

Club work for this past year was carried on in five communities with an enrollment of 36 cotton club boys. The bank had agreed to finance this project to the extent of \$17.20 for each boy. Individual notes had been made up prior to this meeting and at this time the fathers endorsed them with the boys and also agreed that on a certain date which was to be determined by the club leaders or the county agent, that each boy should bring his cotton to town and have it weighed and ginned.

Mississippi (Cont.)

Each boy was supplied with 6 pecks of Delfos, 6102 cotton seed; 200 pounds of nitrate of soda; 400 pounds of acid phosphate; 100 pounds of kainite and 20 pounds of calcium arsenate for poisoning purposes. While each boy came out exceedingly well with his acre of cotton, he was somewhat handicapped due to the drought. Each boy made a profit ranging from \$50 to \$100. Prizes were donated by the merchants to the amount of \$100, which was divided into prizes, seven for production and three for the best kept record books. A trip was also given to the boys to the State fair which all enjoyed and from which all benefited by seeing exhibits from other sections of the State. As a result of the 36 demonstrations in cotton work, I have been able in my last campaign for enrollment to enroll 291 in the cotton club. They readily see the advantage of commercial fertilizer and improved methods of cultivation and also boll weevil control. I have been able to get the bank of the county to agree to finance this work this coming year to the extent of \$4000 or \$5000.

Through this club work, I feel that the fathers and other farmers of the county are realizing the mistakes they have made for years.-T.H. Montgomery, County Agent, Lawrence County.

Most excellent exhibits were put on by the boys at the county fair and the yields were most satisfactory considering the fact that we had six months of absolutely dry weather beginning the first of June. These boys were all taught poisoning of cotton for boll weevil through demonstrations held by the county agent at the club meetings.

The 10 highest boys in the cotton club produced 10 bales of cotton.

This item will likely be of interest regarding increased production brought about in club work:

In 1921	the highest yield in the boys' cotton club was	1,340	pounds of seed cotton
" 1922	" " " " " " " " " " " "	1,620	" " " " "
" 1923	" " " " " " " " " " " "	1,900	" " " " "
" 1924	" " " " " " " " " " " "	2,042	" " " " "

I think this gradual increase from year to year in the past under adverse circumstances such as bad weather, is a very strong evidence as to the value of club work and scientific methods.-C.L.McNeil, County Agent, Madison County.

The outstanding work in club projects was in cotton. The Citizens Bank & Trust Company of Marks, financed the cotton club boys. Each boy was furnished with enough pure Delfos seed and 200 pounds of nitrate of soda for his acre. Out of 67 boys enrolled in this club 31 of them made a bale per acre and the others made an average of 230 pounds of lint cotton per acre. The highest yield was 1,975 pounds.-B. A. Brady, County Agent, Quitman County.

For the cotton club boys a gin day was set and every boy notified to bring his cotton on that day. The gins were cleaned from all seed in order that the boys could keep their seed pure for next season's planting. Every boy that enrolled in the cotton club brought his cotton. We ginned from the 96 acres 91 bales of cotton. This made an average of nearly 1,200 pounds of seed cotton to the acre. The cotton was pooled in the warehouse, and a cotton classer was sent by the Ervin-Anderson Cotton Company of Hattiesburg, who did the classing. When all

Mississippi (Cont.)

grades were established the samples were placed on a table in the city auditorium according to grade and class, and all buyers assembled and it was sold to the highest bidder. The cotton was bought jointly by two public spirited home merchants who paid a little more than two cents a pound above the market that day. A little more than \$10,000 was paid to the cotton club boys for their lint alone. The seed is still to be sold for planting purposes.-Alvin D. Stewart, County Agent, Simpson County.

North Carolina

The main object in the work of farm crops this year has been to improve the quality and to increase the quantity and leave the land better than it was when the crop was planted. On one farm where the yield of cotton has been very poor, we put forth effort to increase production by asking the father to let his son who is 14 years old, have a two acre plot to cultivate in cotton. On this farm the yield of cotton has never been more than 657 pounds of seed cotton per acre. The plot of land was the poorest of the farm. I instructed the boy to pay his father \$10 rent for the two acres and to keep account of everything he did to grow the cotton. The following is the report:

Total cost of production.....	\$72.35
Total yield of cotton 2,413 pounds.	
at 9½ cents per pound.....	\$229.23
	<u>72.35</u>
	\$156.88

The cotton club work was stimulated by the offer of \$750 in prizes by the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce. The basis upon which the prizes were offered was: (1) The use of the most complete methods, both indirect and direct, for the control of boll weevil, (2) the best and most complete report, (3) the best story of the work, and (4) the highest yield of seed cotton per acre. The cotton counties of the State were divided into four zones based upon the anticipated damage from boll weevil for the year. Besides good cultural methods most of the cotton club members used home mixed fertilizers with a high percentage of inorganic nitrogen, improved seed of pure varieties, and practiced thick spacing, and in some instances dusted their cotton for weevil control. They all made a high average yield in the work. Robert Johnson of Four Oaks, produced over 1,000 pounds of lint cotton on an acre, and Claud Sigmon, of Newton, produced more than 1,100 pounds of lint cotton on an acre. Sigmon's yield is the highest, except one, so far reported by a cotton club member in the entire South-S.J. Kirby, Asst. State Agent, State Club Leader.

A boys' cotton club was organized in the early winter with 12 members. Each boy cultivated 2 acres of cotton for his club plot. Eight of the members planted the Mexican Big Boll variety seed purchased through the agent from good breeder. The other four planted good Cleveland Big Boll second year ranging from 8-3-3 to 10-4-3, some of the members mixed their fertilizers with 8-3-3 analysis. Sixteen per cent nitrate of soda was used by most of the members as a side dressing at cultivation after chopping in quantities ranging from 75 to 150 pounds per acre. The larger amounts being applied at two applications three to four weeks apart. Two of the members used no soda at all after planting. A total yield of 23,098 pounds of seed cotton was produced by the 12 members on 24 acres, or an average of 962.4 pounds per acre. At an average cost per acre, of \$36.58, or a total expense for the whole 24 acres of \$877.92 this leaves a net profit of \$60.66 per acre.-C.M. Brickhouse, Lenoir County.

North Carolina (Cont.)

The work with the cotton club has been very successful in many respects. All 12 of the members have shown a great deal of interest in it all through the year, and a good attendance of members at the club meetings has been had. Four of the members attended the State club members short course held in Raleigh at State College during June 23-28 inclusive. All four members came back delighted with their trip and very enthusiastic over the work and instruction received there. Six of the 12 members put on exhibits at the district fair held here at Kingston, which consisted of 3 stalks of cotton placed in separate boxes and a written outline telling how they produced their cotton crop. This exhibit was located in the main exhibit hall and attracted much attention at the fair. Fifty dollars worth of cash prizes were won by the six members who had exhibits there. Three other members were prevented from putting on exhibits at the fair because of the high water that occurred at that time making it very difficult to cross the river to get their exhibits to the fair. The Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation is giving \$12 worth of merchandise prizes to the club, and \$175 worth of cash prizes is being offered to the three boys in the 17 counties in this section of the State who make the highest score in the cotton club work done by the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce. The winners for the prizes have not been determined as yet.-D. M. Brickhouse, County Agent, Lenoir County.

One boy who wished to grow 2 acres of cotton as a club project was advised to use a pedigreed strain of Mexican Big Boll cotton. Also that he mix his own fertilizer which he did, buying the raw materials from the local dealer. His mother also wished to plant the same variety of cotton seed, which she did on the adjoining two acres. The soil fertility of the four acres was practically the same as the field had been handled as one previous to this test. The land was prepared and the cotton was planted, cultivated and harvested the same way, no difference whatever being made in the two plats, other than the kind and method of application of the fertilizer, in that the boy applied his home-mixed fertilizer at the time of planting. The mother applied her ready-mixed fertilizer part at planting time and part as a side dressing. The boy's fertilizer cost him \$10 per acre and the mother's cost \$21 per acre. The boy made 592 pounds of lint cotton per acre and the mother made 480 pounds of lint cotton per acre. Of course, the boy paid cash for his fertilizer and his mother's was bought on time. Both the raw materials and the mixed goods were bought from the same dealer and on the same date. The boy was advised by his dealer that he could not mix these raw materials satisfactorily.-Harry M. Parker, Nash County.

Nineteen boys enrolled this year in cotton work. The boys entered enthusiastically into the project and have produced some splendid yields and kept up a good record of the growing of the crop. Quoting from one of the record books. "The ground in which I planted my cotton was of rich sandy loam, made rich by lime, soy beans and red clover. The ground was plowed about November 20, 1923. It was plowed deep. The rows were made with the cultivator and they were about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet apart. Five hundred pounds of acid was put on the acre when the seed bed was planted. On the 22nd of April the cotton seed was planted and 50 pounds of nitrate of soda and 50 pounds of 8-3-3 fertilizer were put on the acre when the seed was planted. The cotton did not come up right away because the spring was wet and cold after the seed was planted.

North Carolina (Cont.)

But after a week or two it turned warm and the cotton came up. The cotton was harrowed once before it was big enough to cultivate. On the 12th of May the cotton was cultivated with the cultivator. On the 14th of May the cotton was thinned. It was left from six to eight inches apart and from two to three stalks at a place. I cultivated the cotton again on May 30th but not again until June 13th, because it was too wet. It was worked again on July 11th. In order to get ahead of the boll weevil I used a heavy application of fertilizer and nitrate of soda so as to hasten growth and maturity. The cotton was also left thick. The first frost came about October 20th and damaged a large majority of the cotton bolls. If a boll weevil had injured the cotton very much I was prepared to dust. Picked 1517 pounds seed cotton in two pickings."-W.G.Yeager, County Agent, Rowan County.

Oklahoma

This was a good cotton year and our cotton-club members are all smiling this fall. From the exhibits at the county fair we sent the 10 best to the State Fair at Muskogee as a county team and Haskell County was given 3rd, 4th and 7th places. This gave the county first place as a team.-A.E.Cook, County Agent, Haskell County.

The cotton-club reports have practically all shown a profit this season. They have averaged better than \$200 a piece net profit after paying from one-fourth to one-half gross production for rent. The cotton-club members reporting to date show more than \$65,000 net profit. Cotton, the country over this season, is producing a net profit of over one-half of the value of the land on which it grows.-Teague S. Fisher, County Agent, Jackson County.

South Carolina

Prominent among the successful counties in boys' club work this year, Anderson stands out for the excellent accomplishment in its cotton club. The bank of Anderson sponsored the undertaking and loaned money to the club boys to buy their seed, fertilizer, poison and the like. Only the note of the club boys was required to obtain the loan. One hundred and twenty-six boys selected because of their desire to make a success of the proposition, entered this cotton club.

Mr. Byars decided that rather than organize the cotton-club members into local community clubs, he would organize a county-wide club and hold regular monthly meetings of this club in Anderson, or at some convenient place. This was done and a county club meeting was held each month, the attendance averaging about 75 to 80 per cent. At the meetings prominent experts along various lines were invited to address the boys. Usually there was some sort of special entertainment arranged for these monthly meetings. Once they were given free passes to a baseball game in Anderson, and another time the rotary club gave them an invitation to attend the rotary luncheon. The boys made quite a favorable impression on these business men, who decided that a picture should be made of the boys and their rotary friends together.

South Carolina (Cont.)

It is safe to say that these cotton-club boys of Anderson County have made much larger yields on their acres than have the older farmers on similar land. Several tons of pure seed will be distributed throughout the county by the cotton club boys. On December 3, County Agent Byars requested the boys to bring their bales of cotton, for each boy averaged a bale per acre, to the city of Anderson and sell it in bulk to the highest bidder. The staple brought a fancy price as a result of this movement.-State Boys' Club Agent, B.O. Williams, Asst. State Boys' Club Agent, I. D. Lewis.

My club work has consisted entirely of cotton-club work. Early in the spring a county-wide cotton club was organized with 135 members. The bank of Anderson gave splendid cooperation in this work by lending each boy \$20 with which to buy fertilizers, seeds, and boll weevil poisoning, as well as furnishing entertainment at our regular monthly meetings. This work was popular from the beginning and has resulted in some excellent work. Each boy was required to use Wanamaker-Cleveland Big Boll cotton seed, practice thick spacking, and poison boll weevils. They have done excellent work that has attracted much attention, not only in this county, but from other counties. While all reports have not been received it is evident from those received so far that the members will make good yields and fair profits.

The members of the boys' cotton club put on a cotton exhibit at the recent Anderson fair which attracted much attention. It was one of the best cotton exhibits ever put on in this part of the State. All told, the club work done this year was one of the most outstanding pieces of extension work ever done in the county.

The club as originally formed consisted of 134 members, but for various reasons, it was reduced to 123 members, of which 108 have reported, thus completing the year's work. The total acreage represented by these reports was 140 with a total yield of 180,300 pounds of seed cotton, valued at \$19,531.79, with a total cost of \$4,894.78 and a total profit of \$14,637.01. The average yield per acre was 1,295 pounds of seed cotton. The average cost per acre was \$34.98 and the average profit per acre was \$104.55. In the above calculations lint cotton was valued at 23 cents per pound and the seed at 90 cents per bushel or three cents per pound.

The records indicate that it required 70 hours per acre of man labor and 30 hours of horse labor to produce the crop.-S.M. Byars, County Agent, Anderson County.

There are eight boys in cotton growing projects: Edd Williams, Jr., of Pleasant Fall community a 12 year old boy furnished a record of one acre of cotton with a yield of 1,600 pounds gross with a cost of \$57.08 making a net gain of \$109.92.

Curtis Smith, 14 year old boy of Spartanburg submits a record of one acre of cotton 1,468 pounds gross at a net cost of \$38.00 leaving a net gain of \$100.95.

Joe Alfred Kelly of Fountain Inn, 16 year old boy with one acre at a net cost of \$21.16 yielded a gross amount of cotton of 1,575 pounds at present market value worth \$154.30, leaving a net gain of \$133.14.-W.C. Bunch, Negro County Agent, Spartanburg County.

Tennessee

This has been our banner year for cotton. The general plan throughout the cotton territory has been for each club member to select the best land available, use an improved variety of seed, apply 200 pounds of acid phosphate and 100 to 200 pounds of nitrate of soda, leave the plants rather thick on the land and keep a supply of calcium arsenate on hand as insurance against the boll weevil.

In Madison County 96 boys produced an average of 1,103 pounds of seed cotton per acre. Curtis Aldrich grew 2,000 pounds on an acre at a cost of \$49.35 and won first prize in the county. Rooker Deloach won 2nd prize in the county with a yield of 1,800 pounds. The boys in this county used the Cleveland variety.

In Haywood County, 61 boys made an average of a bale to the acre. Hess Watson's tenant farmer's son living near Brownsville, grew two bales on his acre. I visited Hess before his crop was quite all harvested and it was quite evident then that his total yield would be 2 bales. The Haywood County boys used Half and Half variety.

Of the 150 cotton club members in Lauderdale County, five made over 2,000 pounds of seed cotton per acre. The lowest yield in the county was 750 pounds.

In Fayette County 13 cotton club members made an average of \$100 per acre. --G.L.Herrington, State Club Leader.

Due to the fact that the negro county agent, A.M.Dobbins, was made an assistant to me, plans were begun to get him started right in the county. Cotton being the chief crop produced by the negroes, the idea of getting economical production of the crop soon became our aim.

The five banks of Jackson were asked to cooperate with us by financing 75 negro boys with a bushel of pure Mexican Big Boll cotton, 100 pounds of nitrite of soda, 200 pounds of acid phosphate, 2 pounds of calcium arsenate, and a gallon of molasses with which to make cotton on the acre basis under boll weevil conditions. The banks let the boys have the supplies at 6 per cent. This is the only record that we have where the banks of a county have financed the negro boys' in club work. The boys are paying their notes off well and will have finished them by December 1st. The negro boys agreed to pool all their cotton with the Tennessee Cotton Growers' Association. A few of the boys where the father was not a member had sold his cotton on the open market. They have ginned cooperatively making a lint turn out of 35 per cent. The seed has been pooled and will be sold as planting seed on the cooperative plan. We will make an effort to get the banks to cooperate with us again next year and instead of having 75 ^{negro} boys in the Bank Cotton Club we will have 150 boys in it. --Judd Brooks, County Agent, Madison County.

Texas

Of the 11 junior club members, only four completed the work in cotton and turned in reports. They had 6½ acres and harvested 7,742 pounds of seed cotton. This cotton sold for \$696.68, cost \$105.50 to raise, and returned a net profit of \$591.18 or an average of nearly \$150 per club member. These boys used methods of boll-weevil control and took special care to see that they used the best seed in their plots. Three of the other boys raised their crops and secured good yields but failed to send in reports. Two boys moved away and the other two boys failed to carry their crop past the planting stage. --Louis H. Alsmeyer, County Agent, Cameron County.

Texas (Cont.)

Seventeen result demonstrations were given to adults and 25 to the junior clubs; with an average of 400 pounds of seed cotton per acre increase. These results were obtained by breaking down the time worn fallacy of improper preparation and the purchasing of good seed, or of the dulling by machine of home grown seed and the proper spacing of the crop after it had started growing.

Intensive methods of cultivation were practiced from the beginning of growth until the crops had matured.

William Alley, a 13 year old boy of Alleytown, Texas, 3 miles east of Columbus, and a pupil in the 4th grade of Alleytown public school, joined the cotton club. He had practically no experience but by manifesting interest he succeeded in producing $1\frac{1}{2}$ bales of cotton on 2 acres that produced 780 pounds of lint cotton at 24 cents a pound when sold brought \$187.20. Forty one and a half bushels of corn were produced on his acre worth at present prices \$41.50.

The boy is saving his money and plans to use it and what other he earns to complete his high school education, and in the clubs of this same school there are several boys and girls that have from five to twenty-five dollars each in the local banks.-W.H. Isaacs, Negro County Agent, Colorado County.

Result. demonstrations were conducted with 64 club members, each planting 5 acres of cotton. The results of this cotton work has been outstanding. There has been produced by these 64 boys \$31,200 worth of products, averaging about \$14.50 more per acre than the county average.-C.T. Watson, County Agent, Dawson County.

Two club meetings were held with each club in the county. I have 137 boys and girls competing in the special cotton contest in which the local commercial club is offering several hundred dollars in cash prizes. These prizes are based on production on five acre projects and as every five acre block has to be measured, it is taking quite a little time to get the thing under way. However, I am getting good cooperation from the local leaders in the measuring of the land and this helps materially. Twenty new club members have been started with registered calves; eleven are taking baby beef projects and with those taking poultry, hogs, grain, sorghums, etc., we have about all we can handle.-From report of R.B. Johnston, County Agent, Dickens County,-See report of E.A. Miller, Agronomy Specialist.

Alden Cowan, a boy won first prize with a yield of 1,730 pounds of seed cotton (Rucker) 716 pounds of lint at 22-2/5 cents and 1,013 pounds of seed at 2 cents making a total value of \$180.74. With terraces and ditches, Alden carried a spring team around a hillside and made a wooden trough to carry the water over a creek to his acre and irrigated it. He carried the water about 300 yards.

Harold Davis won 2nd prize with a yield of 1,860 pounds of seed cotton (Rowden) 638 pounds of lint at 23-4/10 cents and 1,221 pounds of seed at 2 cents making a total value of \$173.

William Robinson won 3rd prize with a yield of 1,411 pounds of seed cotton (Bennett's special) 561 lint at 22-6/10 cents and 849 pounds seed at 2 cents making a total value of \$144.-Roger Davis, County Agent, Franklin County.

Texas (Cont.)

Bill Stubbs, one of the club members in the Eldridge Agriculture Club, has proved himself one of the most successful cotton raisers in the county.

Bill joined the 5 acre cotton contest that was fostered by the semi-weekly Farm News. They offered a prize of \$1000 to any farmer or club member in the State of Texas who produced the most pounds of lint cotton on 5 acres. Bill prepared his land early in the spring of the year by first using a tandem disk and pulverizing the surface of the ground in order to prepare it to hold sufficient moisture for time of deep preparation. In April, this 5 acre plot was listed to a depth of 3 inches. No further attention was given to this plot of ground until planting time. On the 15th of May he used a lister for planting and planted his plot with Mebane seed at the rate of one half bushel to the acre. On account of heavy rains a sound stand was not obtained and he found it necessary to replant about the 25th of May. At this time he used a different variety of seed, a half and half variety, and a good stand was obtained.

On June 5 he used a slide cultivator for first cultivation. On June 15 the plot was hoed in order to get rid of weeds. The original stand of cotton was thinned or chopped. On June 25 a thorough cultivation was given with a cultivator with the use of diamond point shovels. This stirred the ground to a depth of at least three inches. The plot was again hoed in order to get rid of the weeds and no further cultivation was given until the latter part of July when he cultivated it with sweeps which stirred the ground to shallow depths and obtained a dust mulch in order to preserve the moisture through the dry season of the year. On account of excessive dry weather he did not cultivate the cotton any further for fear that it would throw off its fruit upon cultivation.

In October the cotton began to open and the first bale was ginned on October 15. Other bales were ginned as follows: second bale November 10; third bale November 25; fourth bale December 1; fifth bale December 10; sixth bale December 15. Another bale is open on this plot, but to date has not been ginned. Total results in regard to number of pounds raised are not obtainable at the present time, but an unusual record has been made by this club member. He produced over 3,150 pounds of lint cotton to five acres which is about five times the average acre production in this county.-R.O. Dunkle, County Agent, Gray County.

Virginia

One hundred and eight boys were enrolled in demonstrations for better methods of growing cotton. Sixty-five of them completed the work for the year on 70 acres with a total production of 114,566 pounds in the 8 counties where cotton demonstrations were conducted.

In Dinwiddie, 10 boys were enrolled and completed the work for the year. Henry Epps of Dinwiddie, R.2, made 1,030 pounds on his acre, and Spurgeon Fields of Stony Creek, R.3, made 1,200 pounds on his acre.

In Greensville County, 8 club boys were enrolled in the cotton demonstrations. Seven of these members completed the work for the year. The total production was 8,711 pounds of seed cotton. Each of these boys had samples of their cotton at the county fair and 5 of them won premiums.

In Brunswick County, 4 boys had demonstrations in cotton making a total production of 3,015 pounds of seed cotton on 4 acres. William Thomas of White Plains, turned under clover and used 400 pounds 3-8-3 for his plot and had a yield of 800 pounds.-Negro Local District Agent, T.B. Patterson, J.L. Charity.

